



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

Three illegal aliens plead guilty in fake document conspiracy

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Three illegal aliens from Mexico pleaded guilty for their roles in a Louisville-area fraudulent document ring as a result of an investigation by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Eliazar Carrillo-Quintero, 26; Salvador Campos-Ortega, 22; and Fernando Mercado-Florez, 22; all of 1503 Oleanda Court, Louisville, pleaded guilty yesterday in the Western District of Kentucky to conspiracy to possess and sell document-making implements and false identification documents, including: Permanent Resident Alien Cards (green cards), Social Security cards, Mexican driver's licenses and Mexican birth certificates.

Carrillo-Quintero, Campos-Ortega and Mercado-Florez admitted that between December 2004 and May 19, 2005, they and other co-defendants solicited customers going in and out of businesses in the Louisville area, including Mexican grocery stores and restaurants, by handing out business cards bearing a name and a telephone number. The business cards had different designs advertising services, including mechanic, plumbing, and handyman work, offered 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In fact, the business cards provided contact information for obtaining false identification documents. After being contacted by a customer, a member of the conspiracy would produce the false documents and deliver them to the customer.

"ICE places a high priority on investigating identity fraud and document fraud cases," said Jerry Phillips, resident agent-in-charge of the ICE office in Louisville. "Counterfeit documents create the illusion of legitimacy and allow dangerous criminals to hide in plain sight. ICE is committed to shutting down illegal enterprises that compromise the security of our nation."

All defendants are scheduled to be sentenced before Chief Judge John G. Heyburn II in U.S. District Court July 6. If convicted, the maximum penalties are 15 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Upon release from any prison sentence imposed, Carrillo-Quintero, Campos-Ortega and Mercado-Florez will be turned over to ICE for deportation.

Asst. U.S. Attorney Madison Sewell prosecuted the case. The Louisville Metro Police Department

assisted ICE in the investigation.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.